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From: Stone, Laura M
Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2006 12:25 PM
To: Casper, Anne S
Cc: Byrd, Heather X; Boonpharod, Channarish
Subject: RE: Guantanamo -- ACTION

Anne,

I looked at the stuff on the Black Sites -- it is definitely not appropriate for use here. If iTV ask anything about the Black Sites here, I think we should stick to what we have done before: deny flat out that they exist. Here is what the President said:

"...

In some cases, we determine that individuals we have captured pose a significant threat, or may have intelligence that we and our allies need to have to prevent new attacks. Many are al Qaeda operatives or Taliban fighters trying to conceal their identities, and they withhold information that could save American lives. In these cases, it has been necessary to move these individuals to an environment where they can be held secretly [sic], questioned by experts, and -- when appropriate -- prosecuted for terrorist acts.

Some of these individuals are taken to the United States Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. It's important for Americans and others across the world to understand the kind of people held at Guantanamo. These aren't common criminals, or bystanders accidentally swept up on the battlefield -- we have in place a rigorous process to ensure those held at Guantanamo Bay belong at Guantanamo. Those held at Guantanamo include suspected bomb makers, terrorist trainers, recruiters and facilitators, and potential suicide bombers. They are in our custody so they cannot murder our people. One detainee held at Guantanamo told a questioner questioning him -- he said this: "I'll never forget your face. I will kill you, your brothers, your mother, and sisters."

In addition to the terrorists held at Guantanamo, a small number of suspected terrorist leaders and operatives captured during the war have been held and questioned outside the United States, in a separate program operated by the Central Intelligence Agency. This group includes individuals believed to be the key architects of the September the 11th attacks, and attacks on the USS Cole, an operative involved in the bombings of our embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, and individuals involved in other attacks that have taken the lives of innocent civilians across the world. These are dangerous men with unparalleled knowledge about terrorist networks and their plans for new attacks. The security of our nation and the lives of our citizens depend on our ability to learn what these terrorists know.

Many specifics of this program, including where these detainees have been held and the details of their confinement, cannot be divulged. Doing so would provide our enemies with information they could use to take retribution against our allies and harm our country. I can say that questioning the detainees in this program has given us information that has saved innocent lives by helping us stop new attacks -- here in the United States and across the world. Today, I'm going to share with you some of the examples provided by our intelligence community of how this program has saved lives; why it remains vital to the

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security of the United States, and our friends and allies; and why it deserves the support of the United States Congress and the American people.

..." End of President's remarks

From: Casper, Anne S
Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2006 11:00 AM
To: Stone, Laura M; Boonpharod, Channarish
Cc: Byrd, Heather X
Subject: Guantanamo -- ACTION

Susan S. had a good idea which is to make sure we cull from the speech and make sure the Amb gets points on what the President said on the "black sites." Also, to have prepared suggestions for him about what we want to do re this. Though it's not an issue here, it is a major Washington directive and she is also looking at things to do on her side as well.

I'll be back around noon - let's talk again.

Anne

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